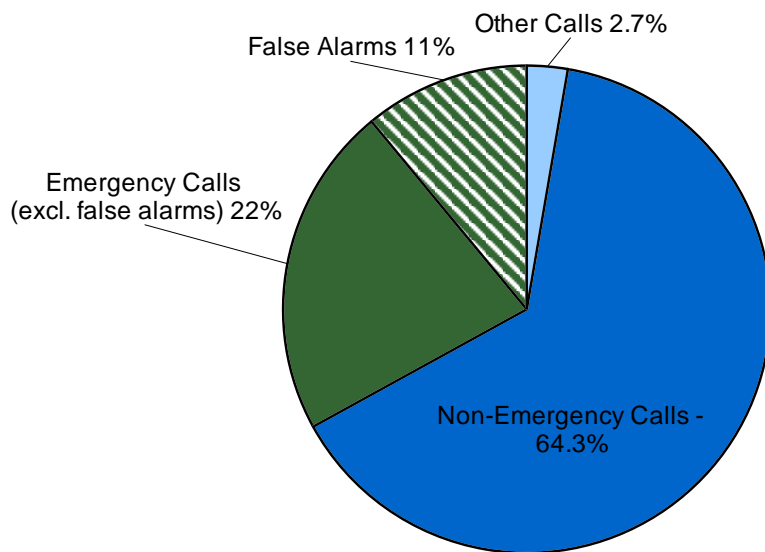


Proposed False Alarm Ordinance



Burglar alarms make up 11% of the NOPD's total calls for service volume. Overall, NOPD responded to 48,000 false alarms in 2014.

98.8% of burglar alarms are false alarms.

Nearly 5,300 addresses are responsible for three or more false alarms in a year – these compose 73% of all false alarms in the city.

The proposed ordinance will:

- Reduce wasted time, allowing police to focus on responding to actual crimes;
- Enhance police response times by eliminating a significant demand upon emergency resources;
- Focus enforcement on the most egregious offenders who are responsible for the bulk of false alarms; and
- Bring our burglar alarm policies into compliance with national best practices.

Ordinance Details:

- Alarm system users will receive a warning for their first false alarm during a calendar year. For the second false alarm users will be fined \$75, and for the third false alarm they will be fined \$150 and NOPD will cease responding to alarm system activations.
- Alarm users will be able to appeal false alarm fines and notices of nonresponse.
- Alarm monitoring companies will be required to make at least two calls to an alarm system user to verify an alarm before requesting a police dispatch. Monitoring companies that do not adhere to these procedures will face fines.
- NOPD will have explicit authority to hire a contractor to administer the false alarm program.
- The ordinance will not in any way impact police response to actively triggered alarms such as panic alarms or holdup alarms.

NOPD also plans to implement a policy change modifying the default response to burglar alarms from a code 2 to a code 1 response, barring mitigating circumstances.